

## Message Text

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R 191505Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL ZAGREB

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3543

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ZAGREB 038

E.O. 11652: XGDS1

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, YO

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT OF CROATIA BLAZEVIC

1. FOLLOWING MY INFORMALLY EXPRESSED HOPE TO PRESIDENT OF CROATIA, JAKOV BLAZEVIC, AT HIS ANNUAL RECEPTION FOR THE CONSULAR CORPS ON JANUARY 13, HE INVITED ME TO MEET WITH HIM JANUARY 19. DURING OUR FRIENDLY AND CORDIAL MEETING, BLAZEVIC SPOKE IN GENERAL TERMS ABOUT OUR RELATIONS IN CROATIA, THE "ANTIENEMIES" CAMPAIGN IN YUGOSLAVIA, AND THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF THE U.S. IN THE WORLD.

2. BLAZEVIC MADE THE CUSTOMARY POINT THAT U.S. ECONOMIC, POLITICAL AND CULTURAL RELATIONS IN CROATIA ARE, OF COURSE, CONSISTENT WITH OVERALL U.S.-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS; THERE ARE NO SPECIAL RELATIONS BETWEEN CROATIA AND THE U.S., NOR CAN ONE EXPECT ANY. HE FELT THAT OUR RELATIONS IN CROATIA, AS ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL, WERE VERY GOOD. IN THE CONTEXT OF OUR ECONOMIC RELATIONS, HE REFERRED TO THE DOW-INA JOINT VENTURE PROJECT AND SAID THAT HE EXPECTED A FINAL REVIEW, INCLUDING THE POLITICAL BETTING IN YUGOSLAVIA, TO BE COMPLETED SOON. HE ANTICIPATED THAT DOW AND INA WOULD REVIEW THE FINAL DRAFT OF THEIR AGREEMENT WITHIN A MONTH.

3. BLAZEVIC SAID ONE COULD NOT SPEAK OF AN ANTIENEMIES "CAMPAIGN." HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE MORE PROPER TO DESCRIBE IT AS A CONTINUING PROGRAM AND NOT A "CAMPAIGN". ON THE ONE HAND. HE SAID, THE YUGO-  
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SLAVS HAVE TO DEAL WITH EXTREMIST TERRORIST EMIGRE GROUPS WHICH

POSE NO REAL THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF THE STATE. ON THE OTHER HAND, THE COMINFORMISTS, ALTHOUGH CONSISTING MAINLY OF RETIRED PEOPLE AND "POLITICAL PRIMITIVES", ARE A DANGEROUS THREAT TO THE SECURITY OF THE STATE BECAUSE THEY CONSTITUTE AN IDEOLOGICAL POLITICAL FACTOR WHICH MIGHT HAVE FOREIGN MILITARY SUPPORT. THE YUGOSLAV LEADERSHIP FELT, BLAZEVIC SAID, THAT WHILE THE NUMBER OF COMINFORMISTS WAS SMALL, THEY HAD BEGUN TO MAKE LITTLE MOVES INCLUDING HOLDING CONGRESSES AND BEGINNING TO ORGANIZE THEMSELVES. HE COMMENTED THAT YUGOSLAV COMINFORMISTS ABROAD (LIKE DAPCEVIC) HAD BECOME MORE ACTIVE IN CROSSING THE BORDERS BETWEEN THE SOVIET UNION, HUNGARY, CZKCHOSLOVAKIA AND WESTERN EUROPE. HE SAID THE TASK OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY IN YUGOSLAVIA IS TO ALERT ITS MEMBERSHIP AND THE YUGOSLAV PUBLIC TO THE POTENTIAL DANGERS FROM THESE HOSTILE FORCES.

4. BLAZEVIC DECLARED THAT THE U.S. IS A SUPERPOWER WITH ENORMOUS RESPONSIBILITIES. HE COMMENTED THAT THE YUGOSLAVS WERE WATCHING CLOSELY INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS IN THE U.S. AND, OF COURSE, FOLLOWING U.S. FOREIGN POLICY. "THE U.S. HAS TO BE WILY; THERE MUST BE SUBSTANCE TO DETENTE." WHILE THERE WAS WIDESPREAD SPECULATION THAT DETENTE MIGHT MEAN THE DIVISION OF THE WORLD INTO SEPARATE BLOCS, BLAZEVIC OBSERVED THAT THE U.S. AND THE USSR MUST NEVERTHELESS, AS SUPERPOWERS, BE THE RUDDERS OF MOVEMENT.

5. COMMENT: WHILE BLAZEVIC WAS OF COURSE AWARE THAT WHAT HE SAID WOULD BE WELCOME TO U.S. EARS, THE MEETING COULD NEVERTHELESS BE SEEN AS A SIGN OF THE CURRENT FAVORABLE STATE OF BILATERAL RELATIONS.

6. BELGRADE COMMENT: ANNOUNCEMENT OF MEETING IN SEMI-OFFICIAL "BORBA" HERE WAS NOTABLE EXAMPLE OF YUGOSLAV BALANCING: IT WAS IN SAME PARA WITH NOTE THAT SOVIET CONGEN GUSEV ALSO MET WITH CROATIAN SAWP PRESIDENT MARGAN. KAISER

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